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HASLEMERE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for 1934.

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# Haslemere Urban District Council.

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## Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health:

J. E. HAINE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
Millmead House, Guildford. Telephone: Guildford 1425.

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Sanitary Inspector:

JAMES J. SHIRLEY, A.R. San. I., M.S.I.A.,  
Council Offices, Museum Hill, Haslemere. Telephone: Haslemere 660.

Millmead House,  
Guildford,  
Surrey.

May, 1935.

To the Chairman and Members of the Haslemere Urban District Council.

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MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I present to you my Annual Report for 1934, the first which I have had the privilege of submitting to you.

My duties actually commenced in April, and I have to thank my predecessor, Dr. Fowler, for leaving arrangements so that the transfer took place smoothly and easily.

The health of the district has remained extraordinarily good, infectious disease having been conspicuous chiefly by reason of its rare occurrence. When one considers the number of visitors constantly coming into the district, the fewness of cases becomes all the more remarkable.

The Birth Rate is decidedly low, as one might expect in a district where the population tends to be weighted with a proportion older than the average. At the same time, the Death Rate is certainly not high. For purposes of comparison, I have shown the Death Rate as it would be in Haslemere if the population were composed of people of different ages in the same proportion as throughout the country as a whole. Making this allowance, Haslemere proves to be more than ever an exceptionally healthy place in which to live.

The results of the alterations of boundary have now had time to show. Adjustments in many directions have been necessary, particularly in bringing into greater uniformity the sanitary arrangements of different parts of the district.

I desire to record my appreciation of the never failing assistance accorded by all members of the Council staff, and my thanks to the Council for their courtesy and co-operation in all matters.

J. E. HAINE,

Medical Officer of Health.

# HASLEMERE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area: 5945 acres.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, 1934: 9290.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1934) according to Rate Books: 2560.

Rateable Value: £115,922.

A sum represented by a Penny Rate: £444 14s. 5d.

### Social Conditions.

As Haslemere is chiefly a residential district, the problem of unemployment is less critical than in towns where factories and industrial works are found. Indeed, with a population of nearly 10,000, almost half of whom may be said to reside in the town of Haslemere itself, much of the district is really rural in character. There is no evidence that unemployment has in any way contributed to a lower standard of health. As children and infants are likely to show signs of malnutrition very early, such might be looked for in the schools and clinics, especially the Infant Welfare Centres, minor ailments clinics and dental clinics.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.						Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	36	46	82
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
						—	—	—
						38	47	85
						—	—	—
Still Births.						Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	6
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
						—	—	—
						5	3	8
						—	—	—

### BIRTH RATE.—

Live Births: 9.15 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

Still Births: 0.86 „ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ „

For the country as a whole, the Birth Rate was:—

Live Births: 14.8 per 1,000 of the population.

Still Births: 0.62 „ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ „

						Male.	Female.	Total.
Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	51	55	106

DEATH RATE: 11.41 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

For the Country as a whole, the Death Rate was 11.8.

The corresponding Death Rate for Haslemere, assuming that the population consisted of people of different ages in the same proportion as obtains throughout the country as a whole, would be ~~11.4~~ 9.7 deaths per 1,000 of the population.

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no deaths from:—

- Puerperal Fever.
- Puerperal Sepsis.
- Any other Puerperal cause.

#### INFANT MORTALITY.

Deaths of infants under one year of age:—

Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	1
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	1
						<hr/>
Total	..	..	..	..	..	2

Corresponding to the following Infant Mortality Rates:—

All infants, per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	23.5
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..			12.2
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				333.3

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	..			0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	..			0

These figures of infantile deaths are not comparable with those for the country as a whole, owing to the small numbers. For example, there were two deaths of infants under one year of age. One death less would actually have halved the Infant Mortality figure. One more would have increased it by 50 per cent.

For several years past, the figures for infant deaths in Haslemere have been very low, and this is a real source of satisfaction.

I give the following figures for the country as a whole:—

				Puerperal Sepsis.	Other	Total.
MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE						
per 1,000 Live Births	..	..	..	2.03	2.57	4.6
MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE						
per 1,000 Total Births	..	..	..	1.95	2.46	4.41

INFANT MORTALITY RATE: 59 per 1,000 Live Births.

DEATH RATE per 1,000 Population:—

Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
0.09	0.02	0.05	0.10	0.14



## TOTAL DEATHS.

Causes of Death.	M.	F.
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers .. .. .	—	—
Measles .. .. .	1	—
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	—	—
Whooping Cough .. .. .	—	—
Diphtheria .. .. .	—	—
Influenza .. .. .	2	3
Encephalitis lethargica .. .. .	—	1
Cerebro-spinal fever .. .. .	—	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system .. .. .	3	1
Other Tuberculous diseases .. .. .	—	—
Syphilis .. .. .	—	—
General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis .. .. .	—	—
Cancer, malignant disease .. .. .	7	9
Diabetes .. .. .	—	—
Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc. .. .. .	3	5
Heart Disease .. .. .	9	10
Aneurysm .. .. .	1	—
Other circulatory diseases .. .. .	3	4
Bronchitis .. .. .	—	2
Pneumonia (all forms) .. .. .	3	—
Other respiratory diseases .. .. .	—	1
Peptic ulcer .. .. .	3	—
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years) .. .. .	—	—
Appendicitis .. .. .	1	—
Cirrhosis of liver .. .. .	1	—
Other diseases of liver, etc. .. .. .	1	—
Other digestive diseases .. .. .	2	3
Acute and chronic nephritis .. .. .	2	4
Puerperal sepsis .. .. .	—	—
Other Puerperal causes .. .. .	—	—
Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc. .. .. .	1	1
Senility .. .. .	1	5
Suicide .. .. .	1	1
Other violence .. .. .	3	—
Other defined diseases .. .. .	3	5
Causes ill-defined or unknown .. .. .	—	—
All causes .. .. .	51	55

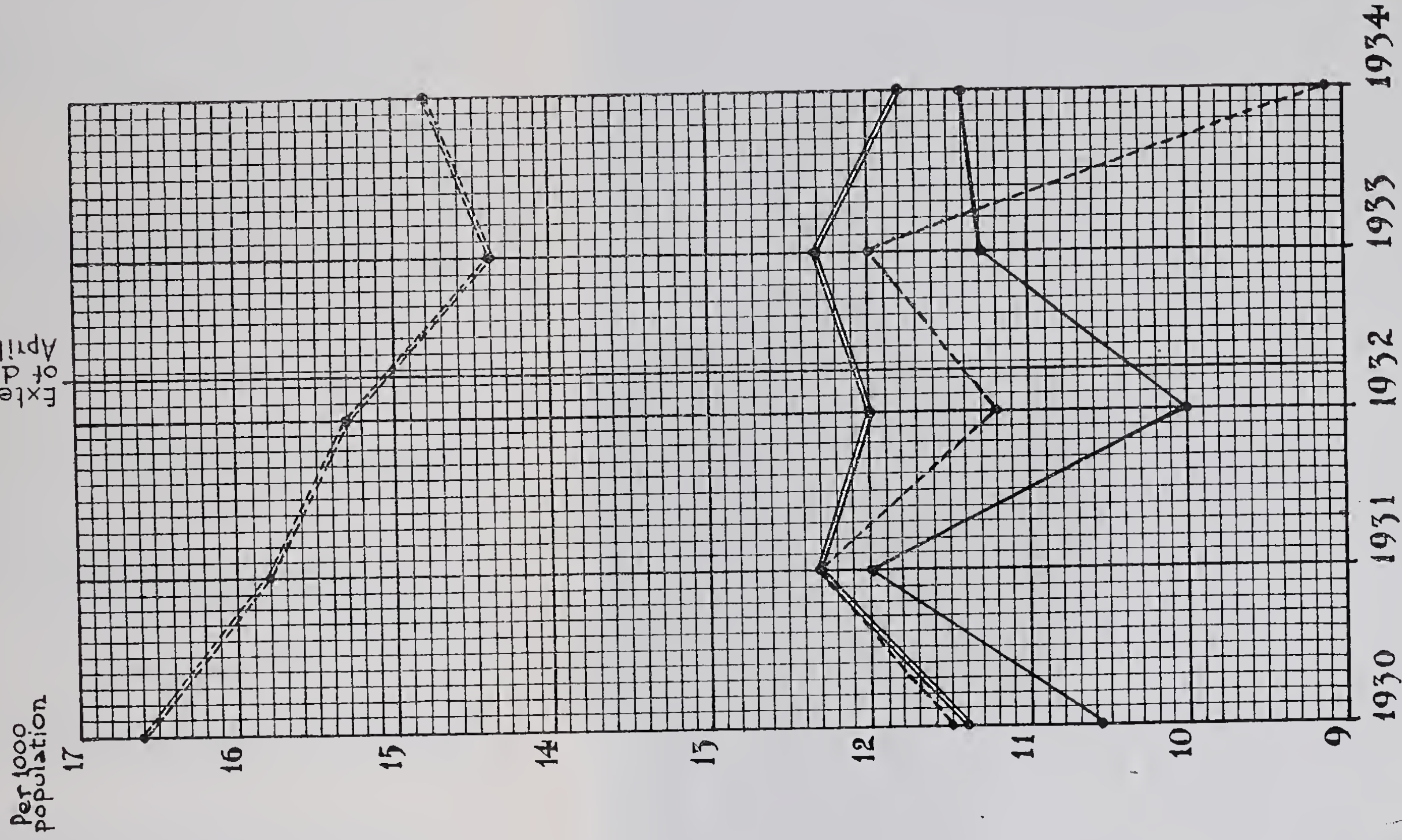


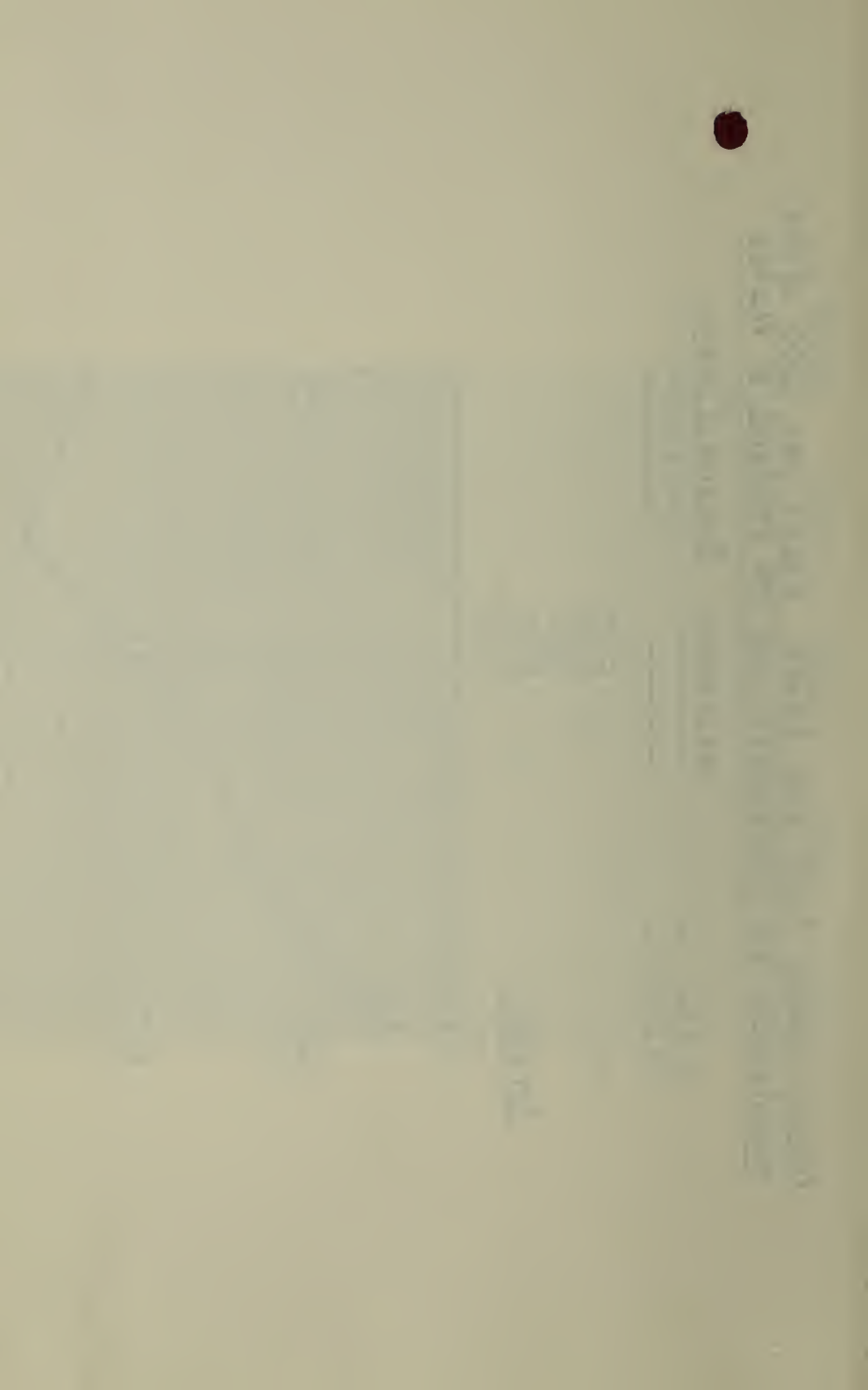
Graph showing Birth and Death Rates per 1000 of the population for Haslemere and for England & Wales

Births :-  
Deaths :-

Haslemere -----  
England & Wales =====

Extension  
of district  
April 1933.





## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

All pathological specimens are examined by the Clinical Research Association in London, at the expense of the Council, where the patients are unable to pay for these facilities themselves. This is a particularly valuable service, and if at times the cost appears to be heavy, one must remember that unrestricted use of this scheme must be accorded in order that infectious diseases shall be recognised at the earliest possible moment. The following are the numbers of examinations made during the year:—

	Total.	Pos- itive.	Neg- ative.
Number of Milk Samples analysed ..	41		
Number of Sputa examined for Tuberculosis	12	1	11
Number of Swabs examined for Diphtheria	12	1	11
Number of Swabs examined for Haemolytic Streptococci (indicating Scarlet Fever infection) .. .. .	17	6	11

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Clinics and Treatment Centres are conducted by the County Council, and are as follows:—

### Maternity and Child Welfare:

St. Christopher's Hall, Haslemere (*open every Tuesday*).

Congregational Chapel Rooms, Beacon Hill, Hindhead (*open every Friday*).

General Medical Clinic for School Children, followed by Ante Natal for Mothers:—

St. Christopher's Hall, Haslemere (*open 2nd and 4th Thursday in each month*).

## HOSPITALS.

Infectious Cases are treated at the Farnham Joint Isolation Hospital.

The general Hospital at Haslemere takes medical and surgical cases.

## MORTUARY.

A Mortuary is maintained by the Council at Sickle Mill. It is ample for all requirements and is suitably and properly maintained.



## AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Infectious cases are removed by the ambulance to the Isolation Hospital at Farnham.

The Urban District Council maintains its own ambulance to deal with cases of accident and illness. During the year, this was used 303 times and covered 5352 miles. A new and well equipped ambulance was purchased during the year and is proving eminently satisfactory.

There is a branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade in Haslemere, so that the services of trained First Aid members of both sexes are available as required.

## NURSING IN THE HOME.

There are two District Nurses in Haslemere, one in Shottermill and one in Hindhead. There is also a Health Visitor. The services are both under the control of the County Council.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### WATER.

Haslemere is particularly fortunate in its water supply. That supplied by the Haslemere Urban District Council is distributed to Graywood and Haslemere, whilst the Wey Valley Water Company supply Churt, Hindhead, and Shottermill. Samples of the water are taken quarterly and typical analyses are appended.

EDWARD HINKS,  
B.Sc., F.I.C.  
Public Analyst.

Analytical Laboratory,  
16, Southwark Street,  
London, S.E.1.

Report on the bacteriological examination of a sample of water received the 7th March, 1934, and marked:—

“Tap on Venturi meter at Sturt Road Pumping Station.”

Number of micro-organisms per cubic centimetre growing upon gelatine at 22°C .. .. . 1

Number of micro-organisms per cubic centimetre growing upon agar at 37°C.. 1

Microbes of Indication:—

Bacillus coli .. .. . absent from 110 cubic centimetres  
Streptococci .. .. . absent from 110 cubic centimetres

This is bacteriologically an excellent water.

(Signed) EDWARD HINKS.

Analysis of a sample of water received on April 9th, 1934 from  
Wey Valley Water Co., taken 9th April, 1934.

#### CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER 100,000.

Appearance	..	..	..	..	Bright with very slight film deposit of mineral particles.
Colour	..	..	..	..	Normal Odour .. Nil
Reaction pH	..	..	..	..	Neutral 7.5 Free Carbonic Acid 0.88
Electric Conductivity at 20° C	..	..	..	..	160
Total Solids, 180°C	..	..	..	..	11.0
Chlorine in Chlorides	..	..	..	..	1.1
Nitrogen in Nitrates	..	..	..	..	0.14 Nitrites .. absent
Hardness: Permanent	..	..	..	..	2.5
Temporary	..	..	..	..	4.0
Total	..	..	..	..	6.5
Metals	..	..	..	..	Iron, minute trace 0.012 ; Zinc, trace
Free Ammonia	..	..	..	..	0.0024
Albuminoid Ammonia	..	..	..	..	0.0004
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F.	..	..	..	..	0.0050

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

No. of Bacteria per c.c. :—

On Gelatine in 3 days at 20°C.	..	..	..	..	..	24
On Agar in 1 day at 37°C.	..	..	..	..	..	0
The Bacillus Coli .. Present in	..	—	..	..	Absent in 100 c.c.	
Bacillus Welchii .. Present in	..	—	..	..	Absent in 100 c.c.	
(B. Enteritidis Sporogenes)						

#### REPORT.

This is a bright water containing an occasional particle of mineral matter in suspension. It is of normal colour, neutral reaction and soft in character.

The water contains a minute regligible trace of iron, is of good organic quality, and of the highest degree of bacterial purity.

It is a pure and wholesome water, suitable for the purposes of public supply.

For Drs. Beale & Suckling

(Sgd.) JOHN F. BEALE.

Through this routine analysis in December, accidental sewage pollution of the Haslemere water was discovered following abnormally heavy rains, and the opening up of the ground over the source of water for laying new sewers. The actual amount of pollution is believed to have been very small. The prompt action of the Surveyor in obtaining a chlorination plant immediately may well have been the direct means of preventing any serious consequences. Thanks to the all night work of the Surveyor, this plant was installed and was actually working within

24 hours of the discovery, whilst the contaminated water in the reservoir and water mains was run to waste, and the mains flushed through. Within a few days, sterile water was being distributed through the mains and the amount of chlorine gradually reduced from 0.4 parts per million to 0.2 parts per million.

The Surveyor has examined conditions carefully and effected alterations. One can be reasonably confident that no further pollution can occur, even if there should be a repetition of such heavy rains. It may be pointed out in passing that organisms suggestive of old sewage pollution have been found in the water on previous occasions during the past three years, but their numbers were so few that no importance could be attached.

The practice of taking quarterly samples will be continued and conditions carefully watched in times of heavy rainfall.

In the most rural parts of the district, well-water is still used. Most of the samples examined are of reasonably good quality, but as the area of main supply gradually extends, wells become fewer. It is much better policy to spend money on laying new water mains rather than on repairing old wells, which only too often have never been adequately protected from adventitious pollution, and the quality of whose water cannot be guaranteed.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The work of preparing the new sewage disposal works at Shottermill is proceeding. Meantime, the old works, taxed to the uttermost, are kept in reasonably good working order by constant careful attention. The benefits of the new plant will be inestimable.

The small sewage disposal works at Grayswood were found to be unsatisfactory. After trying various temporary expedients, plans for constructing a new plant, utilising as much of the existing works as possible, were prepared by the Surveyor. A Public Enquiry was held by a representative of the Ministry of Health in December, and sanction having been given, it is hoped that the work may be started early in 1935. The plans include an extension of the sewer to most of the other houses on and around the main road at Grayswood. As these houses have suffered from unsatisfactory and insanitary cesspools, or have been denied the unrestricted use of water on account of the difficulty of disposing of waste, a great sanitary improvement of this district is assured.

The following extensions of sewers have been completed during the year:—

- 260 yards of new sewers have been laid by private enterprise in development of new estates.
- 3.6 miles of sewers have been laid by the Council.
- 30 houses have been connected to the sewers.



## RIVERS AND STREAMS

The only case complained of was the pollution of a small stream which receives the effluent from the Grayswood Sewage Works. This is a swiftly flowing stream, and except in hot weather, little or no actual nuisance has been caused. It is probable that had the stream been kept clear of obstructions and excessive vegetation, even this would have been unnoticeable. The completion of the new works will, of course, prevent any recurrence.

There was a suggestion in connection with a case of typhoid fever, that Wey Hill brook, which runs on the East side of Bunch Lane, was polluted with sewage. Analyses gave no support to this view, the brook water being no more impure than any average stream of similar nature.

The following is an analysis of the water:—

	Analytical Laboratory,
Edward Hinks,	16, Southwark Street,
B.Sc., F.I.C.	London, S.E. 1.
Public Analyst.	25th September, 1934.

REPORT on bacteriological examination of a sample of water marked:—  
 Brook water,  
 received the 18th September, 1934.

Number of micro-organisms per cubic centimetre growing on gelatine at 22°C	.. .. .	14,000
Number of micro-organisms per cubic centimetre growing on agar at 37°C	.. .. .	2,000
Moulds	.. .. .	20
Bacillus coli	.. .. present in 0.01 c.c. but not in 0.001 c.c.	
Streptococci	.. .. present in 0.1 c.c. but not in 0.01 c.c.	
Bacillus Welchii	.. .. present in 10 c.c. but not in 5 c.c.	

There was no evidence of typhoid or paratyphoid organisms.

This is not a clean stream water: excrementory organisms are present in large numbers but, as stated above, neither typhoid nor paratyphoid was present.

(Signed) EDWARD HINKS.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Night soil is collected by the Council's employees twice weekly. During the year, this service has been extended to part of Grayshott Parish, involving an addition of 130 pails. The extension of the sewer at Grayswood will allow of the conversion of some 30 houses to a water carriage system.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse in every Parish is collected weekly and disposed of by incineration. Tins are sorted and baled, being disposed of at a small profit.

The experimental gas producing plant, designed to produce power gas from household refuse, has not so far fulfilled expectations. If the mechanical difficulties can be successfully overcome, this plant might become invaluable by disposing of refuse profitably. Meantime, the apparatus continues as an experiment encouraged but not financed by the Council.

Cesspools are emptied by the Council's cesspool emptier every month on request. The objectionable smell associated with the emptying has been successfully overcome by mixing an appropriate quantity of chlorine (prepared from Chloride of Lime) with the cesspool contents before emptying. It is believed that this also aids the actual disposal of the sewage matter at the works.

A new 700 gallon cesspool emptier has enabled this service to become more satisfactory and efficient.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Number of inspections and re-inspections of:—

Dwelling-houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	306
Other premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	1616
Number of sundry visits and inspections not included above	..						51
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	1973

Number of dwelling-houses at which nuisances or defects were discovered	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
Number of other premises at which nuisances or defects were discovered	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Total number of Statutory Notices served	..	..	..				0
Total number of Informal Notices served	..	..	..	..			17
Number of visits in connection with Infectious Diseases	..	..					54
Number of rooms disinfected	..	..	..	..	..		24

## Inspections of other premises :—

PREMISES	No. on Register.	No. of Inspections.	Nuisances or Defects found.	Notices served.
Slaughter-houses	5	491	3	2
Butchers' Shops	15	284	—	—
Bakehouses ..	7	117	2	—
Other Food Premises	—	154	2	1
Factories .. ..	12	101	—	—
Workshops and out-workers' premises	41	147	2	1
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops ..	42	276	13	6
Schools .. ..	—	31	—	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds .. ..	—	—	—	—
Piggeries .. ..	—	4	—	—
Smoke and Fume observations ..	—	11	—	—

## COMPLAINTS.

During the year, 26 complaints were received. Each complaint was investigated and the necessary action taken.

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Two hundred and forty-eight inspections were made of the factories and workshops on the registers. Want of cleanliness was found on one or two occasions, the same being satisfactorily remedied on request.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT.

This is a nuisance that is seldom met with in a district of so rural a character. One complaint was received and investigated, a satisfactory and permanent solution being readily agreed upon by the householder concerned.

Occasionally, complaints are received about the gas works. It is difficult to imagine any gas works existing in a built up area without complaints arising. I am satisfied that reasonable precautions are taken to minimise objections from smoke, dust, smell and noise, so far as is possible.

A Byelaw, made under Section 2 of the Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act 1926, prescribes what shall be deemed to be a smoke nuisance—

“The Urban District Council of Haslemere do by this  
 “byelaw prescribe that the emission of black smoke for a  
 “period of two minutes in the aggregate within any con-  
 “tinuous period of thirty minutes from any one chimney in  
 “a building other than a private dwelling house shall until  
 “the contrary is proved be presumed to be a nuisance.”

## SCHOOLS.

These are controlled by the County Council almost entirely. Visits of inspection have been made from time to time to ensure that sanitary conveniences and water supplies are adequate and satisfactory.

A complaint of overcrowding at Hindhead School was referred to the Education Committee of the County Council. It was found that there was no actual overcrowding, although a room not primarily intended as a classroom, and consequently unsuitable, was on occasion being used, owing to lack of other accommodation.

There were no school closures due to infectious disease during 1934.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Fish frying is declared an offensive trade in the district. There are two shops approved, and in both the premises are kept clean and satisfactory, up-to-date cooking appliances being used. In one case, removal from Lion Lane to more suitable rooms in Shottermill was permitted. One application to set up a new business of fish frying was refused by the Council.

There is one marine store, and this is, likewise, reasonably well, maintained.

## HOUSING.

Haslemere is fortunate in having no slum clearance problems. Houses are generally maintained in good condition, whilst overcrowding is but rarely met with. At the same time, the demand for houses for the more poorly paid working classes continues. Private enterprise is unable to supply houses of the most suitable type at rents within the means of wage earners. Reconditioning of old houses is encouraged, so far as practicable, as being likely to provide good houses at lower rentals than can be obtained by any new building programme.

It seems anomalous that houses giving identical accommodation should have rentals which vary so widely. Certain houses with almost identical accommodation have rents ranging from 6s. to 12s. weekly. One can only hope that means will be found to equalise these rents, or at any rate, to adjust them proportionately to the accommodation provided.

## HOUSING TABLES.

### 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

- |        |   |  |    |        |
|--------|---|--|----|--------|
| (1) a. | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts   | ..   | .. | 230    |
|        | b.  | Number of inspections made for the purpose | .. | .. 306 |
| (2) a. | Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head(1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 | ..   | .. | 145    |
|        | b.  | Number of inspections made for the purpose | .. | .. 210 |



(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .. .. .	2
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .. ..	49
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices:— Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers .. .. .	36
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—	
(a)	Proceedings under Section 17, 18 and 23, Housing Act, 1930.	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .. .. .	0
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
	<i>a.</i> by owners .. .. .	0
	<i>b.</i> by local authority in default of owners .. ..	0
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. ..	0
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice :—	
	<i>a.</i> by owners .. .. .	0
	<i>b.</i> by local authority in default of owners .. ..	0
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .. .. .	2
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. .. .	2
(d)	Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .. ..	0
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit .. ..	0

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

## MILK SUPPLY.

At the end of the year there were registered 13 cowkeepers and 16 milk retailers in the district, whilst 15 retailers from outside sell milk within the district.

The standard of milk produced in the district is remarkably high. Forty-one samples were taken, and the results may be conveniently grouped as follows :—

Attaining Grade "A" Standard	21
Falling below .. .. .	20

Samples of milk produced outside the district show analyses that are not so good, possibly because of the greater time which must elapse before sale and on account of the transport and greater handling.

Milk produced in the district.	Milk produced outside the district.
Highest Bacterial Count 640,000	Highest Bacterial Count 12,800 000
Lowest Bacterial Count .. 1,966	Lowest Bacterial Count .. 2,900
Average Count of Samples .. 67,359	Average Count of Samples 107,192

Two hundred and seventy-six inspections were made of cowsheds, dairies and milkshops. The following defects and infringements were found :—

Limewashing and cleansing required .. .. .	3
Dirty or defective floors .. .. .	1
Insufficient ventilation or lighting .. .. .	1
Drains stopped or defective .. .. .	2
Cows in dirty condition .. .. .	1
Cesspool nuisances .. .. .	2
Other defects or infringements .. .. .	3
Total .. .. .	13

These defects were remedied after verbal and written notices.

Several cowkeepers and dairymen have had alterations and improvements carried out during the year, in order to bring their premises up-to-date. The majority of persons in this class of business show a keen desire to produce and supply the consumer with clean milk.

The following licences were granted for the sale of milk under the Milk (Special Designations) Order :—

	Increase during 1934.
Dealers licence for Certified Milk .. .. .	5 3
Grade "A" (T.T.) .. .. .	4 3
Grade "A" .. .. .	1 —
Pasteurised .. .. .	1 1
Licence to Pasteurise Milk .. .. .	1 —

## SUPPLY OF MILK TO SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Considerable advantage is taken of this excellent scheme in all the schools in the district. There are still some children who do not have their daily ration, but it is hoped that their numbers will gradually lessen. The results must show in time through improved health and physique, resulting incidentally in better attendances and in improved educational attainment. In co-operation with the County Medical Officer, special investigation is made into all sources of supply of this milk. Frequently samples are taken to ensure as far as possible that only the best milk, and the safest, is supplied. Approximately 24 gallons every day is consumed in the schools under this scheme.

The virtues of fresh milk are not sufficiently recognised by the public, nor is sufficient discrimination shown in the choice of a clean milk supply. There is no better food than fresh milk, particularly for children and invalids, and clean wholesome milk is available generally. Milk sold under the various grades of the Special Designations Order is the only fresh milk sold with any guarantee of cleanliness. If the public would realise the importance of this, there would be a vastly bigger demand for these grades and correspondingly fewer ill effects traceable to milk-borne infections. There are in the district actually nine retailers who supply milk produced from tuberculin tested cows. This is, after all, the only really safe milk, especially for children, infants and invalids.

I am tempted to add that only too often people fail to realise how easily milk is contaminated, or to take adequate precautions for preserving the cleanliness of milk in suitable containers, properly covered.

Condensed milk can never be a complete substitute for the fresh article.

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Slaughter houses in the district number five, and there are 15 butchers' shops. The Sanitary Inspector keeps all under close observation, although in general they are well looked after and satisfactory.

The Sanitary Inspector paid 491 visits at the time of slaughtering, and the following carcasses were examined :—

Beasts .. .. .	404
Sheep .. .. .	992
Swine .. .. .	963

The carcasses were found to be of a high quality, and only the following were condemned and destroyed as being unfit for food :—

- 2 Beasts' carcasses and organs.
- 1 Beast's liver
- 9lbs. veal.
- 1 Pig's carcass and organs.
- 2 Pigs' heads.

The Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, came into force on the 1st January, 1934, and sixteen slaughtermen were duly licensed in accordance therewith for a renewable period of one year. The Council

decided that the small fee of one shilling be payable for each licence. The clause in the Act with regard to the humane slaughter of sh was adopted for this district.

There are eight bakehouses in the district. One hundred and seventeen visits of inspection were made to ensure that the premises were kept in a satisfactory manner.

#### ADULTERATION OF FOODS, ET CETERA.

The Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and other Acts affecting food adulteration are administered by the County Medical Officer, who has supplied the following information regarding action taken during 1934 :—

##### SAMPLES ANALYSED DURING THE YEAR 1934 :—

Articles.	Analyses.	Adulterated or Deteriorated.	Prosecutions.
Milk .. ..	27	5	1
Butter .. ..	1	—	—
Black Pudding	1	—	—
Breakfast Sausage ....	1	—	—
Bread and butter	2	—	—
Dried Apricots	1	—	—
Apple Rings ..	1	—	—
	—	—	—
Totals ..	34	5	1
	—	—	—

#### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

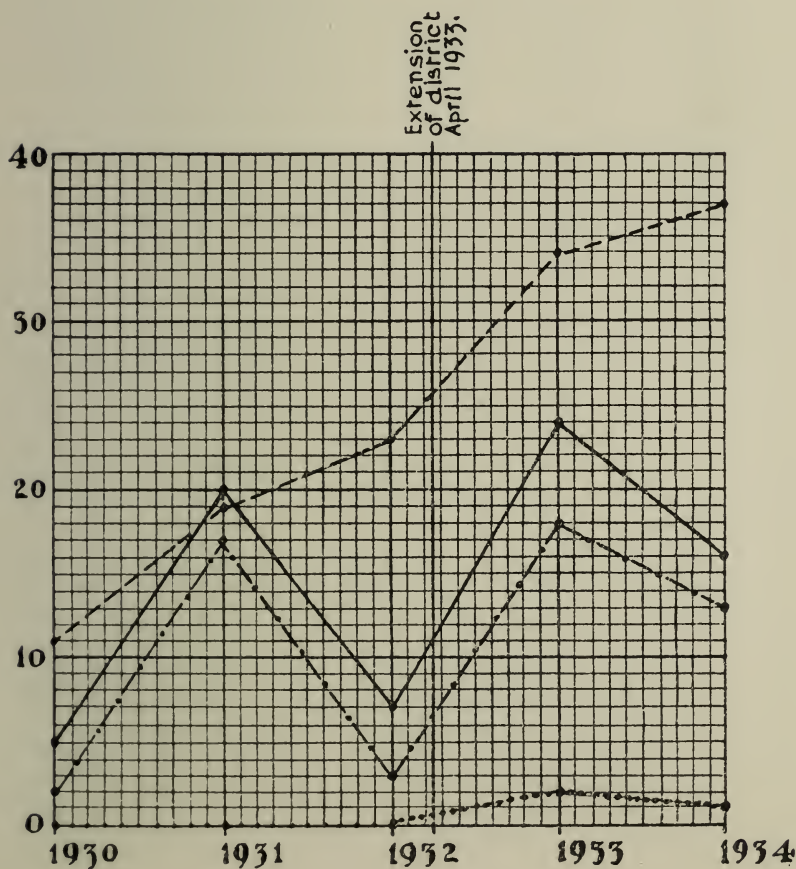
The following table shows the incidence of notifiable Infectious Diseases :—

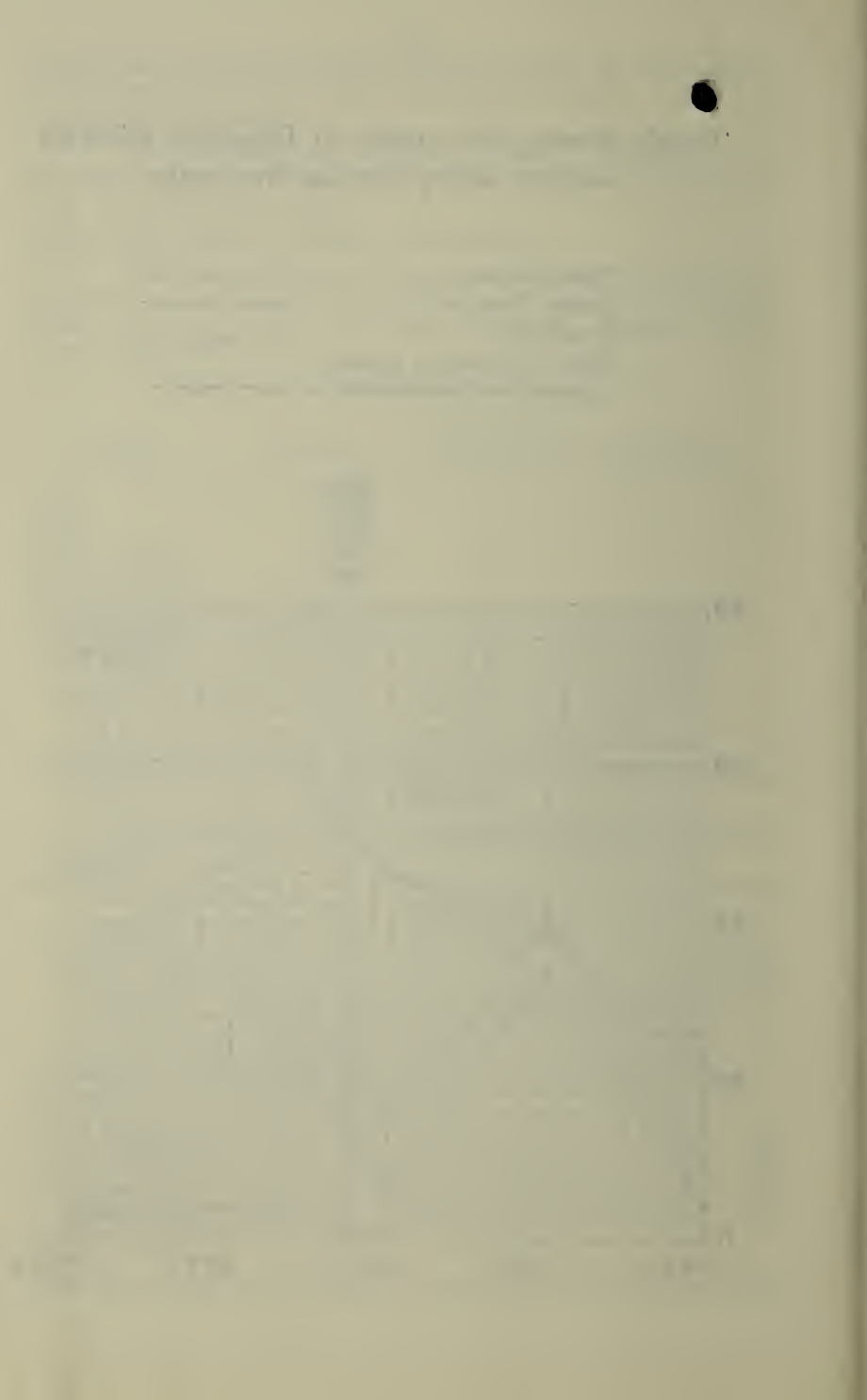
Disease (other than Tuberculosis)	Cases Notified.													Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths
	Age in Years.														
	Un- der 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	At all ages		
Smallpox .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	2	—	—	—	—	8	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	13	12
Diphtheria .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Enteric Fever (includ- ing Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum .. ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Frysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—



Graph showing the number of Infectious Diseases notified during the last five years.

Tuberculosis:— ————  
 Scarlet Fever:— -.-.-.-  
 Diphtheria:— .....  
 Total of Infectious Diseases  
 (excepting Tuberculosis):— ————







Scarlet Fever continues to be the most widespread of the notifiable infectious diseases. It is everywhere of a particularly mild type, often unrecognised until the peeling stage, and probably many sufferers go about unaware that they have the disease and are disseminating infection. On more than one occasion, there has been an epidemic of mild sore throats associated with cases of Scarlet Fever, a circumstance which must be regarded with suspicion in view of the associated Scarlet Fever.

Notice was received that one child had developed typhoid fever whilst on holiday in Haslemere. Careful enquiry failed to reveal any possible source of infection, unless one considers the possibility that a sister of the patient, on holiday from Ireland, acted as a carrier. No previous case of typhoid fever has been reported in Haslemere since March 15th, 1933.

The Farnham Joint Isolation Hospital, to which our patients are sent, has been handicapped by a shortage of accommodation. One of the buildings, counted as 12 beds, is obsolete, and can be used only in emergency. Plans have now been approved for an extension of 12 beds in cubicle wards, to replace this building. It is hoped that the extra accommodation will prevent recurrence of the difficulties we have experienced in procuring hospital treatment for cases of infectious diseases, other than Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Typhoid. The extension, moreover, will enable the hospital to admit complicated cases of measles and whooping cough, where hospital treatment is desirable. The scope of an isolation hospital is widened nowadays. No longer is it merely a place to isolate sufferers from infectious diseases in order to safeguard other people. It exists also as a means of providing the best treatment obtainable, in the best possible conditions, so that sufferers may have the best chances of recovery. It is manifestly not fulfilling this function if, shall we say, a case of mild scarlet fever (which very frequently might well be treated at home) is admitted in preference to a child with measles, complicated by pneumonia, in a house where medical comforts cannot be provided and expensive individual skilled nursing is beyond the means of the parents. Such a child's life may well be saved by prompt removal to hospital.

It is also hoped that ambulance arrangements will be improved, and that it will be possible to convey patients back to their own homes on discharge, instead of, as at present, allowing them to return by public conveyance.

Notices of infectious diseases are received from the schools and prove invaluable in providing knowledge of non-notifiable infectious diseases, such as measles, whooping cough, mumps, et cetera. Moreover, they act occasionally as a check upon the occurrence of notifiable disease where the medical practitioner has omitted to forward a notification promptly. There is, apparently, a feeling amongst general medical practitioners that removal to hospital is a substitute for notification of infectious disease. There is often considerable delay in receiving

notifications, and, in fact, it has frequently happened that no notification at all has been received. It is a statutory duty to notify every case of infectious disease specified, immediately upon becoming aware of its existence.

## DIPHTHERIA.

The continued freedom of the district from this disease, which appears to be on the increase in this country, is no guarantee that an epidemic may not break out at any time. Indeed, the less infection amongst the population, the more does that population become susceptible, since it is not naturally immunised by repeated small infections. In view of the large number of visitors who pass through Haslemere every year, and having regard to the small outbreaks that frequently occur in adjoining districts, it is hoped to introduce a scheme for immunising the children in Haslemere before the summer of 1935.

### SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

DISEASE.	SCHOOLS.				Totals
	Haslemere.	Hindhead.	Grayswood.	Shottermill.	
Whooping-Cough ..	4	13	5	42	64
Scarlet Fever ..	5	1	—	—	6
Jaundice ..	—	—	—	—	—
Chickenpox ..	—	—	15	10	25
Measles ..	4	—	—	—	4
German Measles ..	29	—	2	—	31
Colds ..	2	—	—	—	2
Mumps ..	36	14	7	17	74
Ringworm ..	—	—	—	—	—
Impetigo ..	—	—	—	2	2
Scabies ..	—	—	—	—	—

## CANCER.

There were 16 deaths from cancer, seven male and nine female.

Table showing occurrence of cancer at different ages :—

	Total	40—50	50—60	60—70	70—80	over 80
Alimentary ..	9	—	1	4	4	—
Respiratory ..	1	—	—	—	1	—
Breast ..	2	1	1	—	—	—
Other ..	4	—	1	2	—	1
Totals ..	16	1	3	6	5	1

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Cte.

The home conditions of all notified cases are enquired into, and where possible and advisable, steps taken to improve environment. In response to a request of the County Medical Officer of Health, the formation of a Care Committee was considered by the Council, and it was agreed to appoint representatives to the existent Care Committee at Milford. This ought to be another important step forward in the care and supervision of sufferers from Tuberculosis.

At the end of the year, there were 37 cases of Tuberculosis on the register, as compared with 35 at the end of 1933; 29 pulmonary and 8 non-pulmonary.

NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS OF PERSONS SUFFERING FROM  
TUBERCULOSIS DURING 1934.

Age Periods	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5-15	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15-25	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
35-45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55-65	3	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	7	1	1	1	4	1	—	—

These figures include three cases not notified until after death.



The following table and figures showing the rainfall in Haslemere are included by the courtesy of Mr. Whitcher.

# RAINFALL CHART.

KEPT BY A. G. WHICHER, ESQ.

YEAR

AT HASLEMERE COUNCIL DEPOT.

TIME OF OBSERVATION, 9 A.M.

1934.

COUNTY: SURREY.

10

Date	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.
1	.01					.07		.50	.08	.11	.05	.50
2	.10		.14	.06	.09				1.43	.22	.01	.35
3	.05	.03		.01						.26		.27
4	.21		.09	.05	.17			.04		.50	.07	.54
5			.02		.02			.11			.08	.59
6	.09		.37	.04	.17	.02		.21		.30	.13	1.25
7	.16					.04		.15		.21		.49
8					.16			.01	.47		.80	.06
9	.01		.16								1.24	.70
10			.30	.30				.05			.63	.02
11	.87		.64	.22			.12	.15			.01	.48
12	.04		.01				.10	.38			.05	.10
13	.59		.01	.10			.32	.36			.27	.13
14	.14		.54	.08						.02	.49	1.04
15	.02		.05		.19				.01	.11	.14	.75
16	.33		.42		.06					.03	.01	.01
17	.10		.03	.02	.04					.07		.37
18	.09		.16	.30					.02		.01	.62
19			.50		.02	.06		.02	.16			.13
20			.02	.05		.01	.47	.03				
21				.36		.17		.02		.17		
22							.08	.44	.29			.20
23		.01		.33		.36		.01	.03			.03
24		.02	.06	.19		.09	.44		.21			
25	.27	.02		.21	.01	.01			.01	.25		.85
26	.04			.25		.17			.10			
27	.05			.04		.05						.44
28						.27		.99		.02		.37
29								.14	.10		.04	
30	.09							.30	.10			.48
31	.03									.04		.10
Totals	3.29	.08	3.52	2.61	.93	1.32	1.53	3.91	3.01	2.31	4.03	10.87
MONTHLY TOTALS												

TOTAL 37.41







